STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

DOCKET NO. 2000-606

AUGUST 22, 2000

PORTLAND WATER DISTRICT Revision to Terms and Conditions

ORDER APPROVING TERMS & CONDITIONS AND EXEMPTIONS FROM CHAPTER 81, § 10.C.2.B, AND CHAPTER 86, § 7.B

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

SUMMARY

The Commission approves the Portland Water District (District) Terms and Conditions and grants an exemption (from Chapter 81, § 10.C.2.B, and Chapter 86, § 7.B) to permit a \$16 collection trip fee from residential and non-residential customers.

BACKGROUND AND DECISION

On July 14, 2000, the District filed with the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 307, proposed revisions to its schedule of Terms and Conditions consisting of Sheets 1 through 14, all Revised 9/1/00 and Sheets 15 & 16, Original. The District proposed that the revisions go into effect on September 1, 2000.

The Commission Staff reviewed the proposed Terms and Conditions with the District and suggested several minor changes. The District subsequently filed, on August 4, 2000, and August 10, 2000, further revisions to the proposed schedule of terms and conditions and withdrew Sheet 15 from all filings.

We have now reviewed the revised Terms and Conditions and find them to be acceptable. We note, however, that the proposed revision includes a \$16.00 collection trip fee which is inconsistent with the \$10.00 limit established in § 10.C.2.B of Chapter 81 of the Commission's Rules, Disconnection and Deposit Regulations for Residential Utility Service, and the \$5.00 limit established in § 7.B of Chapter 86 of the Commission's Rules, Disconnection and Deposit Regulations for Non-Residential Utility Service. The material submitted by the District indicates that the \$16 fee is cost-based and therefore we will approve the charge. We agree that the collection trip fee for residential and non-residential customers should be consistent, and will grant the District an exemption from 65-407 CMR 81.10.C.2.B and 65-407 CMR 86.7.B.

Accordingly, we

ORDER

- 1. That the Portland Water District is hereby granted an exemption from Chapter 81, § 10.C.2.B and Chapter 86 § 7.B, that will allow the District to collect a \$16.00 collection trip fee from residential and non-residential customers:
- 2. That the Portland Water District schedule of Terms and Conditions, consisting of Sheets 1-7, 8.1, 9-11, & 13-14 all Revision 3, and Sheets 8.2, 12, & 16 Original, filed on August 4, 2000; and Sheet 8 Revision 3, filed on August 10, 2000; are hereby approved to become effective for service rendered on or after September 1, 2000.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 22nd day of August 2000.

Dennis L. Keschl
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR:

Welch Nugent Diamond

NOTICE OF RIGHTS TO REVIEW OR APPEAL

5 M.R.S.A. § 9061 requires the Public Utilities Commission to give each party to an adjudicatory proceeding written notice of the party's rights to review or appeal of its decision made at the conclusion of the adjudicatory proceeding. The methods of review or appeal of PUC decisions at the conclusion of an adjudicatory proceeding are as follows:

- 1. <u>Reconsideration</u> of the Commission's Order may be requested under Section 1004 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (65-407 C.M.R.110) within 20 days of the date of the Order by filing a petition with the Commission stating the grounds upon which reconsideration is sought.
- 2. <u>Appeal of a final decision</u> of the Commission may be taken to the Law Court by filing, within 30 days of the date of the Order, a Notice of Appeal with the Administrative Director of the Commission, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(1)-(4) and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 73, et seq.
- 3. <u>Additional court review</u> of constitutional issues or issues involving the justness or reasonableness of rates may be had by the filing of an appeal with the Law Court, pursuant to 35-A M.R.S.A. § 1320(5).

Note: The attachment of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the particular document may be subject to review or appeal. Similarly, the failure of the Commission to attach a copy of this Notice to a document does not indicate the Commission's view that the document is not subject to review or appeal.